

NORTH READING EDC MEETING

Lisa E

🏠 Town Hall and Via Zoom
📅 February 7, 2023
🕒 6:15 PM

In Attendance

*Maria Freccero, Chairman, Pat Lee, Vice Chairman. Lisa Egan, Clerk
Danielle McKnight, Town Planner, Caitlin Walsh, Dave O'Neil. Chris Hayden*

RECEIVED
2023 APR -6 PM 1:31
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
NORTH READING, MASS.

Call to Order – 6:15

Chair Maria Freccero called the meeting to order.

Minutes and Attendance - 6:20

Lisa Egan shared minutes from approved Minutes from 1/3/23. Took a roll call vote for minutes. Roll call voted unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.

Agenda Items

- Maria asked for ideas on goals for the committee for 2023. Suggestions include connection with other boards and groups in town, review of zoning on Main Street. There is no mixed use allowable unless you are grandfathered. Lack of sewer does pose a problem for Main street homes/condos. Looking ahead it is important we offer a business summit as well.
- Board discussed 143 Park Street development next to the police station. Will move the house back, turn it and put in a proper foundation. Bruce the owner will be appearing before the Select Board soon.
Adam Austin from 42 Main Street listening from the community.
- Sewer Update – staff working on an alternative plan. No new info available yet. Perhaps town meeting in Mid-April.
- Group discussion of various properties in town that may be coming available in the coming months
- Could we ask the town clerk for email addresses when businesses apply for business certificate?

Priorities:

Select Board is looking at various public transportation for the town.

Consider surveying the town and businesses to help define our priorities.

Each Town Dept updates their information about the website. It should be updated. The front page of of Town website is dated.

Permitting for starting new businesses

Updating website and freshen up the front page.

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Gather a comprehensive list of business owners (email) to have a solid and complete list.

Sewer Update from Pat Lee: Feb 13th Select Board Meeting to make a decision about how to pay for the project, hoping to have it in time to make the decision. Information is at Special town meeting pending TBD on the date. They want to have an open zoom meeting for people to participate in and a single live meeting for people to participate in. We can also do an event with networking at for the business community if that's preferred.

Pat Lee suggested the EDC host the live meeting at the Hillview. Concern about whether it is worth having one meeting to serve both the residents and the business community. There is a preference to have one large meeting.

Video discussion:

Danielle will reach out to Al Pereira to ask about footage from last fall's Applefest and North Reading Town Day.

Allison Kane has information to share but she is traveling and can help us

- Cannot use NORCAM footage so we have some gaps in coverage needed.
- Shaun's draft video was shared. Feedback for small changes included:
 1. Add the 93 sign show sign to Boston.
 2. Add more pictures about the schools or events.
 3. Lisa to ask Alison Kane about using NOTetorius footage and Annie Brobst
 4. Add information about the lower electricity rates as municipal plant rates have Julie to add a bullet.
 5. Danielle will ask Al for the additional footage (tree lighting, town day)
 6. Truck shot was very loud.
 7. Over 55 community is going in down by the common, consider adding this to video.

Wish list items: Sledding video. New library footage, inside of school, maybe basketball game

- Request for Shaun to get photos for inclusion.
- Lisa and Danielle to talk with Shaun about next steps and get questions answered.

New Business

- Lisa asked about one resource for community events. Caitlin also said she agreed. Perhaps a community calendar. Dave recommends people check out the community calendar.

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- Lisa updated the team on Winterfest, an outdoor festival with fire tables, smores, lit ice sculptures and a beer garden. Thursday March 9 from 5 – 8 PM at Reading's Town Common.

Next Meeting

Tuesday March 13th, 6:15, North Reading Town Hall

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15PM